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To: 9NPRM-CMTS@faa.gov, bill.marx@faa.gov

U.S. Department of Transportation Dockets

400 Seventh St SW Washington, DC, 20590

Subject: Docket No. FAA-99-5926 - 43

Docket No. FAA-99-5927 - 42

Proposed Commercial Routes for the GCNP SFRA

Draft Supplemental Environmental Assessment, June, 1999

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Substantial restoration of Natural Quiet has indeed occurred.

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To: 9NPRM-CMTS@faa.gov , bill.marx@faa.gov
U.S. Department of Transportation Dockets
400 Seventh St SW
Washington, DC, 20590

Subject: Docket No. FAA-995926 Docket No. FAA-99-5927

Proposed Commercial Routes for the GCNP SFRA

Draft Supplemental Environmental Assessment, June, 1999

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400 Seventh St SW Washington, DC, 20590

Subject: Docket No. FAA-99-5926

Docket No. FAA-99-5927

Proposed Commercial Routes for the GCNP SFRA

Draft Supplemental Environmental Assessment, June, 1999

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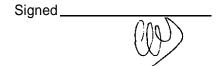
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U.S. Department of Transportation Dockets

400 Seventh St SW Washington, DC, 20590

Subject: Docket No. FAA-99-5926

Docket No. FAA-99-5927

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To: <u>9NPRM-CMTS@faa.gov</u>, <u>bill.marx@faa.gov</u>

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Flying OVER the Grand Canyon is the most environmentally responsible way to experience it. Air Tours leave no trace ...not even footprints. It is the choice for more than 800,000 people per year. Most people visit the Grand Canyon under time constraints, and/or are not physically capable of hiking or rafting the canyon. For the very young, the old, and the handicapped it's the only alternative.

Let's not limit the air tours for numbers sake. Independent Studies have concluded the goal of "Natural Quiet in 50% of GCNP, 75-100% of the day", has been met or exceeded.

Substantial restoration of Natural Quiet has indeed occurred. Moenendort

U.S. Department of Transportation Dockets 400 Seventh St SW

Washington, DC, 20590

Subject: Docket No. FAA-99-5926

Docket No. FAA-99-5927

Proposed Commercial Routes for the GCNP SFRA

Draft Supplemental Environmental Assessment, June, 1999

I believe that SFAR 50-2 has already met the mandate of PL100-91, substantially restoring "natural quiet" to the region of the Grand Canyon, as evidenced by a reduction in complaints to a mere .0000085% of the over 5 million annual visitors. Prior to 1987, the entire Grand Canyon was a Free Flight Zone. The implementations of SFAR 50, 50-1, 50-2, have effectively made 87% of the Grand Canyon a "NO FLIGHT ZONE". Aviation safety has improved dramatically (there has not been a single aircraft accident in regulated airspace since the implementation of regulations on air tour corridors, altitude standards, and pilot training requirements).

On May 1, 1997 curfews were implemented. Rather than being able to fly from dawn until dusk, air tour operators are now limited to the hours of 8:00-6:00, May through September and 9:00-5:00 October through April. Each air tour operator has been allotted a finite number of aircraft that they may fly in the SFRA at any given time. Present regulations prohibit any new air tour operators from starting up a new business at the Grand Canyon. Many air tour operations have merged, and are using larger aircraft that can fly more people (but consequently have reduced the number of total flights-thereby limiting themselves to this number of total flights in the future, allowing no growth potential). Many have switched from tour routes to direct routes... Where does it end? How much is government going to be able to restrict private enterprise?

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